(b) whether imported equipment of the unit is lying unused for want of proper maintenance;

(c) whether the task of maintenance of this unit has been entrusted to private parties and their service is not satisfactory;

(d) whether poor patients have to suffer on account of malfunctioning of the unit; and

(e) the steps proposed to improve this situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No imported equipment is lying unused and all the equipments installed in the Dental OPD are functioning properly.

(c) The maintenance of equipments is given to Private firms/authorized dealers under the Annual Maintenance Contract after observing the required codal formalities and the equipments are maintained satisfactorily by them.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, appropriate measures are taken for the smooth, functioning of Dental OPD whenever such situation arises.

Report of Task Force on CGHS dispensaries in Delhi

14. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that following numerous complaints with regard to the functioning of CGHS dispensaries in the Capital a five member Task Force was appointed by his Ministry to enquire into the matter;

(b) if so, whether the Task Force has since submitted its report;

(c) if answer to part (b) be in the negative, by when the report is expected by Government; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in the meanwhile to improve the quality of C.G.H.S. services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reports have since been received by the Government.

(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) Standing instructions have been reiterated to the concerned Officers to ensure punctuality, good behaviour, cleanliness and maintenance of the buildings in cooperation with the Central Public Works Department.

News-item "Health Check: CGHS arteries blocked"

15. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Health check: CGHS arteries blocked", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 17th June, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to improve the quality of service in the CGHS which seems to be on the brink of collapse ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is a constant endeavour of the Government to improve the services in CGHS depending on availability of manpower and resources. The beneficiaries are generally satisfied with the services provided by CGHS. Standing instructions have been reiterated to the concerned Officers to ensure punctuality, good behaviour, cleanliness, and maintenance of the buildings in cooperation with the Central Public Works Department, new comprehensive formulary for MSO/CGHS has been released and the consolidated indent for procurement of drugs/medicines in respect of all the CGHS covered cities has been submitted to ensure regular supply of medicines to the CGHS beneficiaries.

Mentally-challenged persons in the country

16. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have their own mental hospitals;